

U.S.S.N. 10/077,720

Remarks

Thorough examination by the Examiner is noted and appreciated.

The indication by the Examiner that claims 10, 13, 17-20 and 22-27 are allowable over the prior art is further noted and appreciated by the applicants.

Claims 1, 3-5, 8-10, 13 and 17-27 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 3-5, 8-10, 13 and 17-27 stand rejected.

Objection to the Specification

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter.

The specification at pages 14 and 18 have been amended to alleviate the Examiner's objections.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC 112

Claims 1, 3-5, 8-10, 13 and 17-27 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention.

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Claims 1, 3-5, 8-9 and 21 have been cancelled and withdrawn from further consideration by the Examiner.

Claims 10, 13, 17-20 and 22-27 have been amended either directly or by its dependency on the amended independent claim to alleviate the Examiner's rejections. A reconsideration for allowance of these claims is respectfully requested of the Examiner.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC 103

Claims 1, 3-5, 8 and 21 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu et al '474 in view of Li et al JVSTB 1995.

Claims 1, 3-5, 8 and 21 have been cancelled and withdrawn from further consideration by the Examiner.

Claims 1, 3-5, 8-9 and 21 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu et al in view of Li et al and Oehrlein et al '400.

Claims 1, 3-5, 8-9 and 21 have been cancelled and withdrawn from further consideration by the Examiner.

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Double-Patenting Rejection

Claims 10, 13, 17-20 and 22-27 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double-patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-36 of U.S. Patent No. 6,495,469B1, in view of Wang et al 6,383,919B1.

A Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) is hereby submitted for the Examiner's approval to overcome the double-patenting rejection. A reconsideration for allowance of these claims is respectfully requested of the Examiner.

Based on the foregoing, the applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims, i.e. claims 10, 13, 17-20 and 22-27, are now in condition for allowance. Such favorable action by the Examiner at an early date is respectfully solicited.

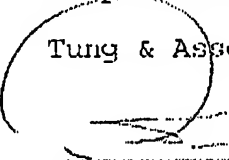
In the event that the present invention as claimed is not in a condition for allowance for any other reasons, the Examiner is respectfully invited to call the Applicants' representative at his Bloomfield Hills, Michigan office at (248)

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540-4040 such that necessary action may be taken to place the application in a condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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